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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

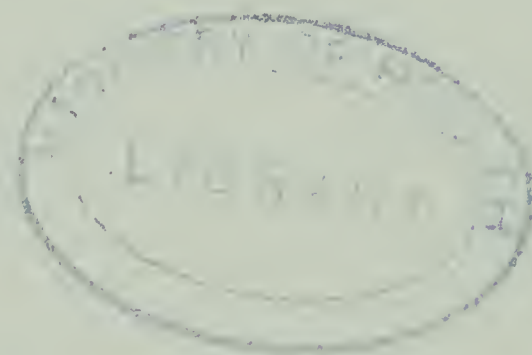
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DONALD G. MACGILL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
Medical Officer of Health.

W. OLDHAM,
Sanitary Inspector.





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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wardle Urban District Council,

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report
on the Health and Mortality of your district during 1951.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

(i)	Area in Acres	3,192
(ii)	Population 1931 Census	4,793
	Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population 1950	4,786
(iii)	Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1951, according to the rate book	1,431
(iv)	Rateable value	£31,290
(v)	Sum represented by a penny rate	£130.4.6d.
(vi)	Industries - The chief industries carried out in the area are:- cotton and woollen Manufacturing, silk weaving, wallpaper printing, dairy farming and light engineering.	
(vii)	Unemployment - There has been no unemployment during the year.	

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
LIVE BIRTHS:			
Legitimate	58	30	28
Illegitimate	5	3	2
STILL BIRTHS:			
Legitimate	1	-	1
DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year of age			
Legitimate	1	1	-

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
13.2

Still Births:-

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births 16.0

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths	58	22	36

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population

Crude	12.1
Adjusted	9.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Death Rate per 1,000 (Live & Still Births.</u>
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 16

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate
Live births. Nil

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate
Live births. Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	10
Death from Measles (all ages)	-
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
Death from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-

Estimated Population Mid. 1951	Live Birth Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Rate of Death under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births.
Mean of 5 years 1946 - 1950	16.0	13.1	29
Year 1950	17.1	12.6	26
Year 1951	13.2	12.1	16
Increase or decrease in 1951 on 5 years average 1946	- 2.8	- 1.0	- 13
Previous year	+ 1.8	- 0.7	- 11

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Smallpox.

No cases occurred during 1951.

Scarlet Fever.

Eight cases reported, seven were removed to hospital, and one nursed at home.

Diphtheria.

Again there were no cases.

Enteric Fever.

No cases.

Whooping Cough.

18 cases were notified.

Measles.

17 cases were notified.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

8 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year and all occurred at Birch Hill Hospital.

Erysipelas.

One case notified from Birch Hill Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

6 new cases were notified, five from Birch Hill and one in the Urban District.

Sonne Dysentery.

3 cases of Sonne Dysentery occurred in Birch Hill Hospital.

Anthrax.

No cases.

Generally.

It is pleasing to note that no case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Poliomyelitis, or Cerebro-Spinal Fever has occurred. There were no epidemics during the year which need particular mention.

TABLE I.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1951
(including cases notified from Birch Hill)

[illegible]

TABLE II.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1951.

Age Periods. Years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -								
1 -								
2 -			1					
5 -								
10 -								
15 -								
20 -	1		1			1		
25 -								
35 -		1						
45 -		1						
55 -								
65 -	1							
75 and upwards.								
	4	0	2	0	0	1	0	0

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED IN 1951, apart from Tuberculosis, were 57 as compared with 110 in 1950 and a comparative table below:-

	1950.	1951.
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	1	-
Scarlet Fever	6	8
Diphtheria	-	-
Measles	42	17
Whooping Cough	35	18
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	9
Erysipelas	1	1
Acute Pneumonia	-	1
Sonne Dysentery	23	3
Food Poisoning	1	-
Anthrax	1	-
	<u>110</u>	<u>57</u>

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN 1951:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	-	-
Cancer	1	9
Diabetes	-	-
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	1	3
Heart Diseases	6	10
Diseases of circulatory system	1	1
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	1	4
Ulcers of Stomach or Duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis or Diarrhoea	1	-
Influenza	3	2
Congenital Malformation	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
Motor Accidents	1	1
All other causes	3	5
	<u>22</u>	<u>36</u>

I am chiefly indebted for the information regarding un-notifiable diseases, to the returns of sickness in schools supplied to me by the Schools Attendance Officer.

I should like to express my appreciation of the efficient assistance given to me by Mr. John L. Seago and Mr. W. Oldham.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

DONALD G. MACGILL,
Medical Officer of Health.

30th September, 1952.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1951.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE WARDLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

My Annual Report for 1951 is as follows:-

GENERAL SURVEY.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Improvement in the quality of the effluent was maintained but there was marked deterioration in the structure of the detritus tanks. The farmers continue to remove the sewage sludge regularly.

The sewers throughout the area have caused no serious concern and the two syphons in Dyehouse Lane continue efficiently and without trouble.

The ejector chamber was ventilated during the year and has given very good service with a minimum of trouble.

Infectious Disease.

Eight cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, seven of which were treated in hospital and the usual disinfection of houses done.

Wardle has had no case of diphtheria during the year and it is now five years since there was a case in the district. It is hoped that this fact will not lead to complacency. Immunisation of a child in early life followed by further treatment in school life is essential to maintain this happy state of events.

House Refuse.

House refuse was removed 38 times during the year. Collection is by a specially designed vehicle and disposal by controlled tipping at Ashbrook. Pail closets are emptied by the Council, with a token payment made by the owners, mixed with ashes and disposed by controlled tipping at Ashbrook. No infestation of the tip has been experienced during the year and no complaint has been received about its condition.

Slaughterhouses.

Only two slaughterhouses were licensed this year and in one only was any slaughtering done - that only a few self-supply pigs about Christmas.

Shops.

The majority of shops in this area are small house and shops combined and operated mainly by family concerns. Exceptions are all meat shops, which are of fair standard, and two large grocery stores. Bakehouses are attached to three shops and they have been maintained in good order.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Of the dwelling houses in the area it is estimated that 97% have a piped supply supplied by the Rochdale Corporation.

Of the remaining 3% which have a supply by wells or springs none have given cause for complaint during the year.

The water supplied by Rochdale Corporation is sufficient and suitable and the only cause for concern is:- (a) Pressure (b) Deposit.

A. Pressure. There seems to me to be an abnormal number of burst pipes in the summer time and considerable trouble from running overflows throughout the year in spite of constant adjustments by the plumbers in the area.

B. Deposit. During the year a number of hot water systems have given trouble and lack of supply to cisterns in many cases has been a chemical deposit or growth which interferes with the mechanism of the cistern. This is particularly noticable on the Alderbank Estate.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There is still considerable properties unsewered mainly because it is in outlying areas, and schemes to connect would be very expensive. A secondary cause is that property is below the level of the sewer. Sewage is treated at one works by precipitation tanks, continuous filter and humus treatment.

There were no extensions of any note during the year.

Rivers and Streams.

The Mersey Rivers Board now deal with rivers and streams in this area but there has been no improvement in the state of Ashbrook. The river Roch is also badly polluted when it enters the Wardle district.

Closet Accommodation.

The contribution paid by the Council as an inducement to owners to convert pail and waste water closets was doubled during the year and is now £8 and £4 respectively.

Smoke Abatement.

Of 13 observations made during the year, none constituted a statutory nuisance.

Schools.

The sanitary conditions of the three schools are quite good and there has been no grounds for complaint.

Offensive Trades.

No nuisance has occurred from the only fellmonger in the district.

Housing.

The vigorous housing programme of this Council was completed in 1950, and 1951 was a year in which to take stock of the present position. Broadly it is this:- Some 750 houses are substandard and of this figure 380 could be brought up to a reasonable standard by the provision of a hot water system, a bath and moderate external renovations. The remainder by reason of their age, dilapidations, bad arrangement on site, chronic dampness, can never be reconditioned with any degree of certainty at a cost which could be considered reasonable. Every encouragement should be given to owners of houses in the first group, to expedite such improvements, whilst in houses which fall in the latter group only repairs to keep them tolerably habitable be enforced.

TABLE III.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1930</u>
Privy Middens.....	28	28	55
No. of closets attached to Middens.....	26	26	55
No. of Pail Closets.....	79	79	156
No. of Fresh Water Closets.....	943	941	394
No. of dry Ashpits.....	4	4	9
No. of Ashbins.....	1,241	1,076	473
No. of houses on Water Carriage System.....	943	941	444

During the year waste water closets converted to fresh water flush closets in four cases. The actual number of waste water closets is uncertain, and in 1952 a survey will be done to ascertain how many still remain.

TABLE IV.

INSPECTIONS 1951.

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Defects</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>
Housing.....	194	119	97
Factories.....	23	0	0
Food Premises.....	37	0	0
Slaughterhouses.....	3	0	0
Bakehouses.....	14	0	0
Nuisances.....	528	219	190
	<u>709</u>	<u>338</u>	<u>287</u>

I wish to place on record my appreciation for the help of Mr. J.L. Seago, Clerk of the Council, and the staff, for the ready and willing help on all occasions.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
W. OLDHAM,
Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE V.

LIST OF ACTS AND SECTIONS
THEREOF ADOPTED BY THE WARDLE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (Part III)
Adopted 15th May, 1891.
 2. Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889.
Adopted 6th April, 1899.
 3. Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Parts
II and III (excepting S48) IV and V. Operative
from 5th October, 1911.
 4. Private Street Works Act, 1892. Operative
from 5th October, 1911.
 5. Notification of Births Act, 1907. Operative
from 13th October, 1914.
 6. Public Health Act, 1925 (Parts II, III and IV)
Operative from 31st January, 1927.
 7. Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.
Adopted 2nd August, 1934.
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Observations as to their administration:-

good.
